19 March 2003
English only

Open-Ended Working Group to Consider the Objectives and Agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament
First session 10-14 March 2003, New York

COMPILATION OF WRITTEN PROPOSALS AND VIEWS SUBMITTED BY MEMBER STATES[1]

Prepared by the Secretariat

A. Preambular paragraphs

To add in preambular paragraph 1

A reference to resolution 57/61. ***(Mexico)***

A new preambular paragraph 3 (bis) – an element taken from resolution 56/24 T (adopted by consensus in 2001):

Recalling that the United Nations Millennium Declaration stated that the responsibility for managing threats to international peace and security must be shared among the nations of the world, ***(Indonesia)***

To add in the fourth line of preambular paragraph 5

Seeking to provide, at the fourth special session devoted to disarmament, for a comprehensive, thorough discussion and review, as well as an assessment of all issues in

[1] Based on the paper presented by the Chairman during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission (A/54/42, Annex II).

* Reissued for technical reasons.

the field of disarmament and international security, including those of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, conventional weapons **including any which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects**, non-proliferation in all its aspects and disarmament machinery, ***(Mexico)***

"Preambular paragraphs are more suitable for an UNGA resolution, not a paper on objectives and agenda. The language needs adapting for a chairman's paper." ***(United Kingdom)***

B. Objectives

(a) (ii): *"We are not convinced that a drafting exercise is the way forward. We need to see whether there is a basis for consensus. Some delegations are claiming that SSOD IV is simply a reaffirmation of SSOD I. If this is true there is no value in convening the meeting." Language proposal:* add: after implementation **'and status'** of the programme etc.; delete 'after the cold war" add **'since SSOD I'** . ***(United Kingdom)***

(a) (iii): add 'future **'UN'**disarmament efforts ... ***(United Kingdom)***

(a) (iii): to replace the word 'Setting' by **'Examining'** ***(Mexico)***

(a) (iii): Reaffirming the principles and priorities of disarmament set out by the first special session and setting guidelines for future disarmament; ***(Algeria)***

To add (a) (iii) bis*:** Identify ways and means to achieve general and complete disarmament; ***(Algeria)

C. Agenda

(b) tiret 1: Implementation **'and relevance'** ***(United Kingdom)***

tiret 2: delete 'the post cold war era' ***(United Kingdom)***

The international situation since the first special session, **including overall assessment of strategic stability**, trends at global, regional and subregional levels; ***(Russian Federation)***

Assessment of the fundamental changes in the international situation since the first special session **devoted to disarmament**, the post-cold-war era and trends at global, regional and subregional levels; ***(Tunisia)***

(b) tiret 4: replace with **'Nuclear non-proliferation'**; ***(United Kingdom)***

Replacement of ad hoc export control regimes with multilaterally negotiated, universally applicable, effectively verifiable, non-discriminatory instruments to prevent proliferation; ***(India)***

Education on disarmament and non-proliferation; ***(Mexico)***

Negative security assurances; ***(India) (Mexico)***

Nuclear-weapon-free zones; ***(Mexico)***

Non-strategic nuclear weapons; ***(Mexico)***

Nuclear non-proliferation; ***(United Kingdom)***

Conventional weapons issues, **including the issue of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;** ***(Nigeria)***

To replace 'the relationship between disarmament and development' with **'disarmament and development'** ***(United States)***

*"**The U.S. does not accept that there is a generic and automatic relationship in all cases between disarmament and development. The agenda item on the relationship between disarmament and development could imply that such a relationship is established and accepted by all. The more general agenda item, 'disarmament and development', also offers a broader basis for discussion of other elements of disarmament and development."*** ***(United States)***

Agenda item on "Confidence- and security-building measures and transparency"

"To include the issue 'security doctrines' with reference to pre-emptive military action due to its very important bearing on disarmament." ***(Kenya)***

Agenda item on "verification and compliance issues"

"The U.S. believes that this agenda item would be more forward-looking if it focused on ways of strengthening compliance in order to maintain the viability of existing agreements." ***(United States)***

To add new agenda items on:

Small arms and light weapons; ***(Mexico)***

Cooperation with civil society including promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education; ***(Japan)***

"Recognizing the importance of the role of civil society including non-governmental organizations, the need for education in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation

has never been greater. We have to consider how to work with civil society including non-government organizations which have played greater role to promote disarmament, as well as how to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education.

Background of promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education study on disarmament and non-proliferation was submitted by a panel of UN experts. The resolution (57/60) of its recommendation was adopted without a vote at the 57th General Assembly 2002." ***(Japan)***

Missiles; ***(Sweden)***

"The subject of Missiles should be considered by a possible SSOD IV. Whether it should be listed as a separate agenda item, or be included in a more generic heading, should be determined in the course of the Working Group's deliberations." ***(Sweden)***

To present as separate agenda items:

Nuclear-weapon-free zones; ***(Egypt)***

Illicit trade in small arms and light weapons; ***(Jordan)***

Suggestions towards a Thematic Agenda for the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament: (Grenada)

"To help the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament usefully focus its work, it is proposed that its agenda consist of cross-cutting themes under which related aspects of the items now included under section (b) of CRP.2 be considered at SSOD4. The following suggestions towards a thematic agenda largely draw from section (a) concerning the proposed objectives of the fourth special session. Other themes and wording may, of course, be added or substituted."

1. Assessment of the fundamental changes and challenges in the international situation after the cold war and post September 11th and how they affect disarmament in the context of globalization;

2. Assessment of the implementation of the programme of action of the Final Document of the first special session devoted to disarmament;

3. Principles, guidelines and priorities for future disarmament efforts;

4. Programme of action that will foster multilateralism in the field of disarmament and strengthen the role of the United Nations in its work to achieve and maintain international peace and security;